

Cavaliers from the University of Virginia furnished the music. It was a charming dance.

#### ALUMNÆ NOTES

Mary Cook (Mrs. Lane), who has spent seven Christmases as a missionary in Brazil, is expected home on a furlough soon.

Grace Henty is teaching in Roanoke. Some of our college girls saw her there on their recent trip to Radford.

Evelyn Chesser is teaching at Bloxom, Accomac County. Her fifth grade is working out an interesting project in the study of ten famous Virginians.

Josephine Bradshaw (Mrs. Rea) delighted us by calling on November 11. She and her husband were just returning from Europe. Josephine was planning to tarry for a month or two at her old home in Highland before returning to her new home in the far west, at Gilroy, California.

Bessie Keeton writes from her school in Danielstown, Va. She is as much interested in English as ever.

Eleanor P. Jennings is teaching in Bluefield, W. Va. Her address is 1105 Highland Avenue.

Claire Lay is doing high school work in Bluefield, Va. She sends her remembrance to all the workers at Blue-Stone Hill.

Anna Allen is teaching in Grove City, Pa. Her address is 154 E. Pine Street.

Lillie Garver writes from Berryville, where she is teaching 5th grade.

Frances Herrick sends greetings from Norfolk. She is finding her work as a teacher interesting.

Louise Hite, of Lowesville, Va., still remembers her friends here at the college, and lets them hear from her now and then.

Velma Moeschler is making a fine success of her tea room, "The Meiringen," in Roanoke City. Her address is 23 Church Avenue, W.

In a recent issue of the VIRGINIA TEACHER reference was made to the untimely death of Mary Shields Alexander, a popular member of the class of 1915. From a letter of January 24, written by her sister Angelyn (Mrs. L. H. Justis of Littleton, N. C.) to Lillian Millner (Mrs. David Garrison of Norfolk), president of the class, the following items are obtained:

Mary Shields died Sunday night, November 20, 1927, in a hospital near her home at Wilson, N. C., as a result of heart trouble following other conditions not regarded as serious. On November 6, 1920, she had married Mr. John D. Weeks of Wilson. She leaves two children, Mary Alexander, aged five, and John David, Jr., aged four.

#### GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

TO MARK the formal inauguration of William Fletcher Russell as Dean of Teachers College, Columbia University, its Trustees have issued invitations to a Conference on Education and the Future America, to be held at Teachers College on April 10 and 11.

It is the desire of the Trustees to make this inauguration ceremony an occasion for reflecting together upon the achievements of American education in the past, upon its obligations in the future, and upon the part that all public-spirited citizens must play in helping our country to fulfil the dreams of its founders. In particular do they desire the counsel and advice of educators of America and other lands.

Randolph-Macon College, which was the first institution in Virginia to offer courses in physical education, has after many years succeeded in its campaign for a new gymnasium. This structure, a gift of alumni and friends of the college, was formally opened Wednesday, February 8, with a basketball game between Randolph-Macon and the University of Richmond.



A new \$36,000 swimming pool has been completed in the Student Service building at the State Teachers College at Fredericksburg and was dedicated on February 18. The pool is 25 by 60 feet, inside measurements.

Brown University announces an increase in its tuition of \$50 per year, effective next September. This puts Brown in the \$400 class along with Yale, Smith, Wellesley, Dartmouth, and Williams. Both Yale and Brown are announcing at the same time more liberal provisions for scholarships and student loan funds. The former during this past year is reported to have aided its students through scholarships, long-term tuition loans and short-term emergency loans, to the extent of \$396,660.97.

That 90 out of every 100 freshman students who grade 60 per cent or better in the Thurstone intelligence test will turn out to be good students has been indicated in three years of experience in the University of Chicago. Only 6 per cent of the students who were marked below 20 per cent on the test have proved capable of making a

success in college. The test, devised by Dr. Louis Thurstone, psychologist at the university, is designed to measure the student's "capacity for abstraction;" it is a test of brightness.

School attendance in the Virginia public school system for 1927 totaled 429,161 as against the 422,695 for 1925, and the 259,394 of 1910, the annual report of Harris Hart, State superintendent of public instruction, shows. Enrollment in the schools totaled 549,317 in 1927 as compared with 554,079 in 1925. Mr. Hart's report, just off the press, indicates extensive educational expansion and development in the school system.

Disbursements for 1927 amounted to \$25,680,973.89 while in 1925 they amounted to \$24,889,847.71, and in 1910 they totaled \$4,994,154.24. The valuation of school property has increased from \$8,535,343 in 1910 and \$50,105,816 in 1925 to \$59,289,271 in 1927. There are 10,874 teachers holding higher than first grade certificates in 1927 as compared with the 9,919 for 1925 and the 2,820 of 1910. In 1927 there were 17,051 teachers in the schools, in 1926, 16,630, and in 1910, 10,443.

#### A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

THEN—1917		NOW—1927
\$635.00	.....Average Salary of Teachers .....	\$1,300.00
8th Grade	.....Certification Standards .....	2 yr. Normal
40,000	.....Summer School Attendance .....	250,000
25	.....Teachers' Colleges .....	100
330,689	.....College and University Enrolment .....	664,266
1,600,000	.....High School Enrolment .....	4,000,000
\$750,000,000	.....Expenditures for Public School Education.....	\$2,000,000,000
5	.....State Tenure Laws .....	14
5	.....State Retirement Laws .....	22
10,000	.....Members in the N. E. A. ....	175,000
200,000	Members in State Education Associations .....	600,000

Growth in education associations promotes educational progress. It is no mere coincidence that the achievements indicated by the table above have been secured during the decade of unparalleled membership growth in state and national associations.

These achievements of the past decade are inspiring, but they must be surpassed during the decade just ahead. The educational advantages of the best communities must make further advances. Strength lies in uniting the educational forces of the nation. The National Education Association gives every teacher opportunity to have a part in this great program of progress.



### MORE SILVER SPOONS

Because of the odd nature of the bequest, the Associated Press recently carried the announcement that the State Board of Education of Virginia was to receive a half-dozen teaspoons under the will of the late Miss Winifred Stuart Gibbs. Miss Gibbs was a newspaperwoman, who conducted a page on foods.

### FLOWER KILLS SPEAKER, WIDOW WINS AWARD

When Professor John Davison, of Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio, accepted a rose from the hand of a girl of the Green Springs High School graduating class May 24, 1924, he was in the course of his regular duties and under protection of the workmen's compensation law at the time, the State Supreme Court ruled recently.

Dean Davison was making a commencement address when a girl member of the class handed him a rose. A thorn on the stem pricked his thumb, causing his death.

Clara Davison, the widow, filed a claim with the State Industrial Commission which refused to grant compensation. The case was taken through the courts. The Ohio Supreme Court ordered the State Industrial Commission to pay the claim.

**TEACHERS WANTED**—Choice placements now for high school and grade teachers for next fall. Interstate Agency, Athens, Georgia.

### TECHNIQUE IN ORGANIZING LARGE UNITS

by

KATHERINE M. ANTHONY

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of Virginia Teacher  
15 cents a copy

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